

Message Text

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44

ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 A-01 OS-03 /012 W

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R 261630Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8198

UNCLAS DAKAR 4789

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ALOW, SG

SUBJ: EDUCATION ALLOWANCE; INCREASED TRANSPORTATION
COSTS

REF: STATE 186206

1. IN PAST YEARS, EMBASSY HAS PROVIDED SCHOOL-BUS
TRANSPORTATION FOR SOME BUT NOT ALL DEPENDENT CHILDREN
AT POST. MOST OF POST CHILDREN ATTEND PRIVATE
(MISSIONARY) DAKAR ACADEMY WHICH IS ON OUTSKIRTS OF CITY.

2. BECAUSE OF INCREASED WORKLOAD FOR POSTS' VEHICLES AND
INSPECTOR'S NEGATIVE REACTION TO CONTINUATION OF PREVIOUS
ARRANGEMENT, EMBASSY FEELS IT MUST TERMINATE ITS OFFICIAL
SCHOOL-BUS SERVICE.

3. ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS BEING CONSIDERED ARE:

- A. TAXIS (RISKY AND NOT DEPENDABLE)
- B. TRANSPORT BY PARENTS;
- C. RENTAL OF COMMERCIAL BUS TO BE PAID BY
EMPLOYEES.

4. ALTHOUGH COMMERCIAL BUS APPEARS TO BE MOST SUITABLE
SOLUTION, THERE IS SERIOUS FINANCIAL DISADVANTAGE.
RENTAL OF SUCH BUS WILL COST APPROX \$537 PER CHILD FOR
SCHOOL YEAR. SINCE PRESENT EDUCATION ALLOWANCE FOR
DAKAR IS \$850, INCLUDING \$670 FOR TUITION AND FEES,
BUS RENTAL FAR EXCEEDS DIFFERENCE OF \$180. NATURALLY
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WE DO NOT WISH PLACE HEAVY NEW FINANCIAL BURDEN ON

PARENTS WITHOUT EXPLORING ALL POSSIBILITIES.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE ADVISE FROM DEPT, ESPECIALLY
INDICATION OF EXTENT TO WHICH ALS CAN AUGMENT AMOUNT RE-
IMBURSABLE TO PARENTS FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION COSTS. SINCE
SCHOOL STARTS SEPT 3, WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY
CABLED REPLY.
AGGREY

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